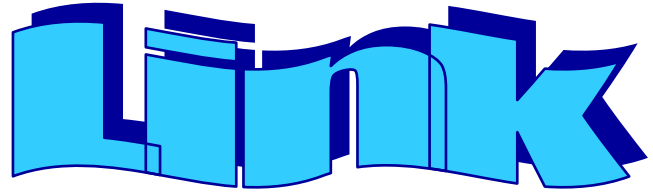




# The Auburn United Methodist Church

From the Pastor



I was driving down US 10 on my way to the church one morning recently. The sun was lighting up the early morning sky but had not yet risen. As I drove I noticed something just a few feet off the highway on the paved shoulder. I really couldn't make out what it was, but as I passed by it moved, and I thought, "That looks like an owl! What in the world is an owl doing on the side of the road? Must be injured." I kept driving.

Nearly to the overpass about 3/4 of a mile down the road, I pulled over. Somehow the Good Samaritan story rolled through my mind. Yes, it may be just an animal but still one of God's creatures. So I slowly backed up on the shoulder of the road until I was within 50 yards or so of the mysterious object. Traffic was fairly heavy as I got out of the truck. I walked slowly back toward the object and sure enough, it was a barred owl. He was alive, but just moving his head. (I'm not an ornithologist, so I'm just guessing it was a "he".) It looked like he was standing, but one of the wings looked as if it might be broken. I put some gloves on and decided I'd try to carefully catch him and find an animal rehabilitation place to take him.

Before getting too close, I waited for traffic to clear so I wouldn't chase him to his death should he decide to take flight into oncoming traffic. I slowly approached him from behind and gently but firmly grabbed him. He was a strong little fellow and managed to free his wings from my grasp. Flapping away, it appeared as if nothing was wrong with his wings, so I held him loosely to see if he could carry his own weight. He could, so I let go. Off he flew into a nearby pine tree, landing within clear view, staring back at me no doubt wondering what in the world just happened to him. I'm guessing he had collided with a passing vehicle enough to put him into a daze but not enough to injure him.

Experiences like this remind me how easy it is to miss those small but special moments in life because we're so often focused on getting somewhere and doing something. Driven by our agendas we can fly by such God moments that really are gifts, gifts that bring joy to the heart. How many times do I miss the Spirit's nudging because I'm so preoccupied with getting to my destination? (Too many.) How many times does the Spirit call but my mind won't answer? (Too often.) But that morning, watching that owl take flight brought some of Jesus' words to mind:

Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? (Matthew 6.26)

'Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.' (Luke 12.32)

In the midst of what can be a frenetic life perceiving the gifts of the kingdom can be an elusive experience. It's then that we need to hear God's call in the psalm:

'Be still, and know that I am God!' (Psalm 46.10)

May the peace of Christ be yours!

Duane M. Harris



What an AWESOME month it has been! God is so GOOD! We are off and planning exciting experiences in the upcoming year for each of the students at AUMC. We have started a Youth Leadership Council where we have brainstormed, discussed and acted on various topics such as Trunk or Treat, Mission Trip, fundraisers, and more. We have claimed a new name for the youth group at AUMC, and we will be known as “Breakthrough.”

What a fitting name, for all that God has in store in the upcoming year. This month is shaping up to be a very busy one with LOTS of activities on the calendar, including a new fundraiser, The Brown Bag Auction. The auction will take place November 13 during the potluck! This is a great opportunity to help support the students of this congregation and an even better time to enjoy laughter and fun as people auction off bags that have a pound of “stuff” in them! All proceeds will be going towards the Youth Mission Trip to Nashville, Tennessee June 17-22, 2012. Preliminary estimates indicate that to keep the cost minimal for families we will need to raise roughly \$3,500 to ensure we meet our goal of each student only paying \$100 to participate in this opportunity. Stay tuned for more details, what we have planned, and how you can help!

**Upcoming Events:**

**November 5:** Meet at church at 12:30 to rake leaves, we will head for pizza at 4:30 in Bay City and then proceed to the Bay City State Theater for the NewWorldSon/Matt Moore Concert, doors open at 6 and the concert will wrap up around 10:00pm. It will be a jam packed day of fun!

**November 6:** Meet at church at 2 to rake the rest of the yards, we won’t stop until we are done! This will take place of youth group for the night.

**November 13:**

11:45am Potluck & Brown Bag/Pound Auction Fundraiser; We will be auctioning brown bags that members bring filled with goodies that weigh a pound, proceeds go towards the Mission Trip

6-7:30: Breakthrough: Minute to Win It Night! Come one, come all, it’s bound to be an entertaining & Competitive night, so put on your game face and get ready for a blast!

**November 19:** 8:30-11:30am Thanksgiving Bag Distribution: This is an awesome SERVICE opportunity for us as a group to help out the Food Pantry at AUMC. They need help packing and distributing.

**November 20:**

4:30 Youth Leadership Council – Pastor Duane & Lynn are providing our meal

6-7:30 Breakthrough: Door to door calendar sales, bring your calendars, if we sell them all, it’s a good start toward raising the funds we need for the Mission Trip.

**November 26:** 1:00pm-4:00 **Can Drive** We will meet at the church and divide and conquer. Parents – anyone willing to drive a vehicle or two to help collect cans, it would be great to have some extra wheels & hands for this project!

**November 27:** 6-7:30 Youth Group

Time	Date	Greeters	Ushers	Prayer Room
8:30	11/6/2011	Ben Norton & Kathy Gilson	Steve & Kelly Krueger	Pat LyVere
10:45		Ed & Gloria Putnam	Chris Ambrose, Rob Samborn	Linda Nicholas
8:30	11/13/2011	Ben Norton & Kathy Gilson	Larry & Janet Rahl	Janet Samborn Stevens
10:45		Ed & Gloria Putnam	Melissa Grew, Shelby Thompson	Jo Dhyse-Mahl
8:30	11/20/2011	Dan & Gretchen Rodammer	Bud Stevens & Dennis Rogers	Trudy Pischel
10:45		Sue Plessner, Ardis Robson	B Bedtelyon, C Witherspoon	Linda Czyzewski
8:30	11/27/2011	Dan & Gretchen Rodammer	Bernie & Sheila Hoy	Joan Schrott
10:45		Sue Plessner, Ardis Robson	Sam & Irene Samborn	Gloria Putnam

November Worship Leaders 8:30 Kayla Roosa; 10:45 Shelby Thompson

Children's Church; 11-6 Amy Samborn, 11-13 Kim Weitzel, 11-20 Jennifer Miller, 11-27 Denise Horswill





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>2011</b>		Carving Club 6:30-9:00 pm	Choir Prac- tice 6:30 pm  Prayer Team 5:30 pm		Youth Group rake 12:30 pm, concert 6 pm
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
Worship Service 8:30 & 10:45 am  Sunday School 9:45 am  Special collection for Food Pantry  Youth Group 2 pm	Trustees 7:00 pm	UMW General Meeting 1:00 pm  Finance 7:00 pm	Carving Club 6:30-9:00 pm  Caring Ministry 5:00 pm  Mission Commit- tee 7:00 pm	Choir Prac- tice 6:30 pm		
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
Worship Service 8:30 & 10:45 am  Sunday School 9:45 am  Auction   Operation Christmas Child wrapping 4 pm  Youth Group 6-7:30 pm	Church Coun- cil 7:00 pm		Carving Club 6:30-9:00 pm	Choir Prac- tice 6:30 pm  Prayer Team 5:30 pm		Food Pantry Thanksgiving Distribution  Movie Night 7:00 pm
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
Worship Service 8:30 & 10:45 am  Sunday School 9:45 am  Youth Group 6-7:30 pm		Martha Esther cir- cle 9:30 am	Carving Club 6:30-9:00 pm	Office Closed		
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>			
Worship Service 8:30 & 10:45 am  Sunday School 9:45 am  Youth Group 6-7:30 pm		Mary Ruth Hope Circle 7:00 pm	Carving Club 6:30-9:00 pm			

## Stewardship moment:

*We would like to thank the children and young adult who served during the worship service on Children's Sunday in October.*

*Kirsten Young and Calie Young served as greeters.*

*Benjamin Miller and Lakin Weitzel served as Ushers.*

*Andrew Binns and Jacob Miller served as acolytes.*

*Cameron Corbat was our scripture reader.*

*They all did a great job. We hope to see them serving more.*



*Adult and Family Ministries present Movie Night, Saturday, November 19 at 7:00pm in the fellowship hall with free popcorn!*

### Volunteers in Mission to Rio Bravo, Mexico Orientation

Once again the Missions Ministry Team has set its sights on Rio Bravo, Mexico as a mission destination to serve in Christ's name. On Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m. there will be a one-hour orientation for those interested in participating as part of the team. Anyone who is interested in hearing about this opportunity to serve is welcome to attend. We'll talk about possible dates and make a tentative decision about that. Commitments will be needed by the first part of December in order to facilitate our planning. Come and hear what God is doing in Rio Bravo and consider whether God may be calling you to serve the poor across the border.

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

4 - Dolores Wise

8 - Gayle Gibbon

12 - Gary Cosens

Jacob Miller

13 - Trudy Pischel

15 - Sue Ambrose

- Samuel Miller

19 - Florence Wegener

Tammy Jezewski

21 - Diane Allen

22 - Deb Plessner

Dave Crispin

Ben Norton

24 - Robert Marsh

27 - Leatha Fahrner

Alison Binns

29 - April Nahgahgwon

## ANNIVERSARIES

10 - Bernie & Sheila Hoy

11 - Ed & Gloria Putnam

16 - Fred & Sue Kloepfer

18 - Bob & Dolores Wise

24 - Ron & Leatha Fahrner

30 - Roye & Sandy Burr



*We hope to see you and your family at our Packing Party on Sunday, November 13 at 4pm in the Fellowship Hall!*



*Serving Christ since 1875*

# Our Vision Statement

A passionate, Spirit-led community where people meet and serve Christ.

**Auburn United Methodist Church**

**207 S. Auburn Rd.**

**Auburn, MI 48611**

**Church Office Hours:**

Monday – Thursday 9:00 am – 2:00pm

**Pastor’s Office Hours:**

Monday – Thursday 9:00 am - Noon

989-662-6314

Website: [auburnumc.org](http://auburnumc.org)

Email: [auburnumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:auburnumc@sbcglobal.net)

[www.Facebook.com/AuburnUMC](http://www.Facebook.com/AuburnUMC)

Church Staff

*Pastor:*

*Duane M. Harris*

*Coordinator of Youth Ministry:*

*Kayla Roosa*

*Office Administrator:*

*Patti Behmlander*

*Organist:*

*Sue Ambrose*

## FROM THE FOOD PANTRY:

The Food Pantry Thanksgiving Dinner Basket distribution is planned for Saturday, November 19. Grocery bags with a list of supplemental dinner items are available for pick up from the pantry cart in the fellowship hall beginning October 30. The bags are due back to the church by November 13.

A special offering will be collected on Sunday, November 6 for the Food Pantry. The proceeds will be used to purchase Turkeys and other items for the Thanksgiving Dinner Baskets. The goal is to assist 100 families in the community.

Thank you for your support in this mission.



### Give Thanks for all things

It’s easy to list the blessings in life: good health, family, a satisfying career, a comfortable home. We might even be thankful for things others take for granted such as freedom and clean drinking water, reliable transportation and food enough to eat. Then there are the little things, such as gardens, sunrises, pets and coffee.

But what about life’s storms or unanswered prayers? Should we be thankful for these? Loss and hardship remind us of our dependence on God. He uses trials to draw us closer to him, to show us that he is our rock and refuge. In misfortune and grief, we discover God’s comfort and strength. Should we not, then, be thankful for the storms, too?